REMARKS

The rejections presented in the Office Action dated August 11, 2006 have been considered. Claims 1-22 are pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Office Action fails to establish that Claims 1-22 are unpatentable under 35 USC §103(a) over "Williams" (U.S. Patent No. 5,881,271 to Williams) in view of "Byers" (U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2004/0243874 to Byers et al.). The rejection is respectfully traversed because the Office Action fails to show that all the limitations are suggested by the references, fails to provide a proper motivation for modifying the teachings of Williams with teachings of Byers, and fails to show that the combination could be made with a reasonable likelihood of success.

In regards to claim 10, the limitations of "a first register coupled to the first clock terminal and the data input terminal, wherein the first register is configured to latch the first set of data values in response to the third set of edges of the first clock signal" are not shown to be suggested by the Williams-Byers combination. The Office Action apparently asserts that the claimed data input terminal corresponds to Williams' PCI clock signal 150 in FIG. 2. However, Williams teaches that PCI clock signal 150 is a clock signal, not a data input terminal (Col. 3, lines 31-33). In addition, Williams' first register 241 does not latch data values from the clock signal 150. Instead, Williams teaches registers 241 are programmed mode registers (Col. 5, lines 56-64) and the PCI clock signal 150 is a clock signal that does not carry data values (Col. 3, lines 31-33). Furthermore, Williams' register 241 does not appear to be coupled to the asserted clock signal 150, as indicated by FIG. 2.

Similarly, independent claims 1 and 18 include the limitations of "storing the first set of data values in response to the third set of edges of the first clock signal." As discussed above, the references do not suggest storing or latching received data values as claimed in combination with the other limitations.

The Office Action fails to provide evidence that would support modifying the teachings of Williams with teachings of Byers. The Office Action alleges that "it would have been obvious ... to improve upon the programmable clock management device,

as disclosed by Byers ... [to] increase the ability to handle frequency signals form any of a plurality of clock signal sources." No evidence is provided, however to demonstrate that Williams has a need for an increased ability to handle frequency signals from any of a plurality of clock signal sources. Nor is it clear what it means to have an "increased ability to handle frequency signals." Thus, the alleged motivation is unsupported by evidence.
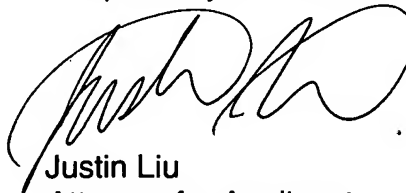
Claims 2-9 depend from claim 1, claims 11-17 depend from claim 10, and claims 19-22 depend from claim 18. The dependent claims further refine the limitations of the base claims. Therefore, the limitations of claims 2-9, 11-17, and 19-22 are also not shown to be suggested by the Williams-Byers combination.

For at least the reasons set forth above, the rejection of claims 1-22 should be withdrawn because a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and a notice of allowance are respectfully requested in view of the Amendments and Remarks presented above. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned is invited.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on October 19, 2006.

___Julie Matthews___
Name

Signature